



## Gary E. Rinnels

August 30, 1942 - April 21, 2020

Due to state and federal guidance on gatherings pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic, the family will not be having a public memorial at this time.

Gary Rinnels, 77, of Ackley, passed away Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at his home. Private family funeral services will be held on Monday, April 27, 2020 at the Woodley Funeral Home with Pastor D.J. Steen officiating. Following the service Gary will be laid to rest at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, north of Ackley. Woodley Funeral Home, LLC of Iowa Falls is caring for Gary and his family.

Gary Edward Rinnels was born on August 30, 1942 in Dumont, Iowa to John and Nettie (Oelmann) Rinnels. Gary graduated from Janesville High School. He then met and married Cynthia Downward in Cedar Falls, Iowa. From this union two daughters were born, Jolene Kay and Melinda Sue. The couple later divorced.

Gary worked at Viking Pump in Cedar Falls and at the grocery store. He then went to work at Burbridges Turkey Farm. Gary moved to Arkansas for a short time, eventually coming back to reside in Ackley near his parents. Gary started working at Ryken Engineering as a surveyor. Soon he met Janice Daniels. They were united in marriage on June 3, 1979 at the St. John's United Church of Christ in Ackley, Iowa. Gary would then work various jobs around the area. He also operated his own lawn and snow removal business.

He attended auctioneering school and would later own A-A Auctioneering in Ackley.

Gary had many hobbies and interests. They included: fishing, hunting, camping, auctioneering and watching sports. A highlight in his life was working at Prairie Meadows Racetrack in Altoona, Iowa where he enjoyed grading the racetrack. He truly loved harness racing, which was passed down from his parents. They would attend races in Allison, Humboldt, Nashua and Spencer, Iowa. Other interests included such things as being park host at Prairie Bridges Park in Ackley for ten years. He enjoyed visiting with all the campers from different areas. He loved to spend time with all his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Gary was a proud member of the Iowa Falls Moose Lodge, where he served as Governor from 1996-1997.

One day, he was dared to play Santa Claus for the city of Ackley. This was a job that Gary loved and continued for thirty years. He will always be remembered as Santa!

Gary Rinnels is survived by his wife of forty years, Janice Rinnels of Ackley, Iowa; daughters, Jolene (Harvin Rust) of Grundy Center, Iowa and Melinda (Marty) Horstmeyer of Loveland, Colorado; grandchildren, Meagan (Mitch) Murray of Lawler, Iowa, Michael (Danielle) Lindaman of Ackley, Iowa, Mason (Alicia) Lindaman of Ackley, Iowa, Rachel Horstmeyer of Iowa City, Iowa and Jenny (Peter) Horstmeyer of Iowa City, Iowa; great-grandchildren, Ashlyn and Alex Murray; brother in-law, Galen (Rhonda) Daniels of Ackley, Iowa; an uncle, Bill Oelmann of Ackley, Iowa as well as nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; his in-laws, Harold and Johana (Toomsen) Daniels; a brother and sister in-law, Delmar and Marjory Daniels as well as aunts and uncles.

# Previous Events

## PRIVATE SERVICE

APR 27. 1:00 PM (CT)

Iowa Falls - Woodley Funeral Home  
516 S. Oak Street  
Iowa Falls, IA 50126  
(641) 648-7700

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ *Janice- so sorry to hear of the passing of Gary. You had many wonder memories which will help get you through this difficult time. I enjoyed reading the obituary, especially about his playing Santa. You were his Mrs. Claus at Christmas and everyday!!! Take care and our prayers are with you. Sharleen and Dave Hubbard— Parkersburg*



Sharleen Hubbard - April 29, 2020 at 02:43 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary E. Rinnels .*



April 27, 2020 at 10:00 AM

CK

“ *What a great guy Thought and prayers for the family Cathy Kruse*

cathy kruse - April 25, 2020 at 08:03 AM

LG

“ *Lavon And Myron. Geiken lit a candle in memory of Gary E. Rinnels*



lavon and myron. geiken - April 23, 2020 at 06:34 PM